



Vallecito Stage Station

VALLECITO STAGE STATION

37349 County Rd. S2 • (Mile Marker 34-35)
Julian, CA 92036
760-765-1188

Vallecito was one of the most welcomed sights to 19th-century travelers on the arduous journey across the Colorado Desert. In the early 1850s the oasis served as a military sub-depot on the road between San Diego and Fort Yuma and as a resting point for emigrants on the Southern Overland Trail. A few years later, the Lassator-Mulkins family made their home there. When the San Antonio-San Diego Mail Line started operations in 1857, passengers were welcomed. The following year the Butterfield Overland Mail made Vallecito a stage stop. Today, a 1934 restoration of that sod building reminds us of the dangerous travels during those years.

Primitive camping, including equestrian camping sites, is available at Vallecito County Park. The nearby Agua Caliente County Park offers camp sites, miles of hiking trails, and two therapeutic mineral pools.

California State Historic Landmark.



Vallecito restoration committee February, 1934.



Julian Pioneer Museum

JULIAN PIONEER MUSEUM

2811 Washington Street
Julian, CA 92036
760-765-0227

The mountain town of Julian is rich in history, having been the site of a major gold rush in the 1870s. This small building was once a blacksmith's shop, but it now houses displays of mining equipment and artifacts, as well as the largest collection of laces in California.

The town of Julian is well known for its many tourist attractions, ranging from apple pie to antiques.

Just down the road is William Heise County Park, which offers stunning views from its many miles of hiking trails, as well as a popular campground.

WILDERNESS GARDENS PRESERVE (Sickler Mill)

14209 Highway 76
Pala, CA 92059
760-742-1631

In 1881 the Sickler brothers built a grist mill, now known as the Sickler Mill, along the San Luis Rey River to process grain for the area's farmers. The stone wheels for the 30-foot-tall mill were made in France and took six months to make the journey. The mill was the first of its kind in northern San Diego County.

When you look at the rock foundation and iron wheel that remain from the original structure, you can imagine how important this mill was to the region's inhabitants.

Rangers offer interpretive programs by appointment, and visitors to the Preserve will enjoy miles of hiking trails through the riparian and oak woodlands and open grassland.

California State Historic Landmark.



Wilderness Gardens Preserve - Sickler Mill



Whaley House

BANCROFT ROCK HOUSE

3554 James Circle
Spring Valley, CA 91977

The Bancroft Rock House was built about 1887 by noted California historian Hubert Howe Bancroft. After his family's publishing firm in San Francisco burned to the ground, Bancroft built this fire-safe structure to store documents. He may have worked on his scholarly histories of California and the Pacific at the Rock House. The building also served as a guest house and a school house for his children.

Recent improvements to the historic rock house include a new roof, floor, front porch, fencing, entry gate, fire-rated wood shingles and parking improvements.

California State Historic Landmark.

THE WHALEY HOUSE

2482 San Diego Avenue • Old Town
San Diego, CA 92110
619-297-9327

Not only was the Whaley House San Diego's first brick building, it was the town's first commercial theater, it was the county courthouse for a while, and it even served as a billiard hall, ballroom, and general store.

The Whaley House also has a reputation of being one of the most haunted houses in the nation, with sightings of more than a half-dozen ghosts. The interior has been elegantly restored to its 1850s appearance.

Tours of the house are available. Visit the gift shop in the restored Victorian Verna House. There are also several other notable historic buildings in the Whaley Complex.

California State Historic Landmark.

For more information call (858) 694-3030
or visit us at www.sdparks.org



Bancroft Rock House

SAN DIEGO COUNTY HISTORICAL TREASURES



 **PARKS AND
RECREATION**
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
www.sdparks.org

SAN DIEGO COUNTY HAS A RICH CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LEGACY WITH MORE THAN 8,000 YEARS OF HISTORY. YOU CAN EXPERIENCE, FIRST-HAND, THIS HERITAGE BY VISITING THE HISTORIC TREASURES OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION.

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IN THIS BROCHURE WE'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THE HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS THAT COME TO LIFE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY PARKS. WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT AND EXPERIENCE THE RICH CULTURAL AND HISTORIC HERITAGE THAT MAKES SAN DIEGO SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY PLACE.

RANCHO GUAJOME ADOBE

2210 N. Santa Fe Ave.
Vista, CA 92083
760-724-4082

More than a century and a half after it was built, this ranch house is still impressive. At nearly 7,000 square feet and containing 28 rooms, it served as the headquarters for the huge ranching operation of Col. Cave Johnson Coutts Sr. and his wife, Ysidora Bandini. It was also the social and cultural center of North County and was considered by many to be the most beautiful ranch in 19th-century San Diego.

Activities at the adobe include docent-led tours, school excursions, and annual events such as the Rancho Christmas and Dia de los Muertos. It's also a popular choice for a unique wedding or reception. Camping is available at nearby Guajome Regional Park.

Rancho Guajome Adobe is a National Historic Landmark.

RANCHO DE LOS PEÑASQUITOS

12020 Black Mountain Road
San Diego, CA 92129
858-484-7504

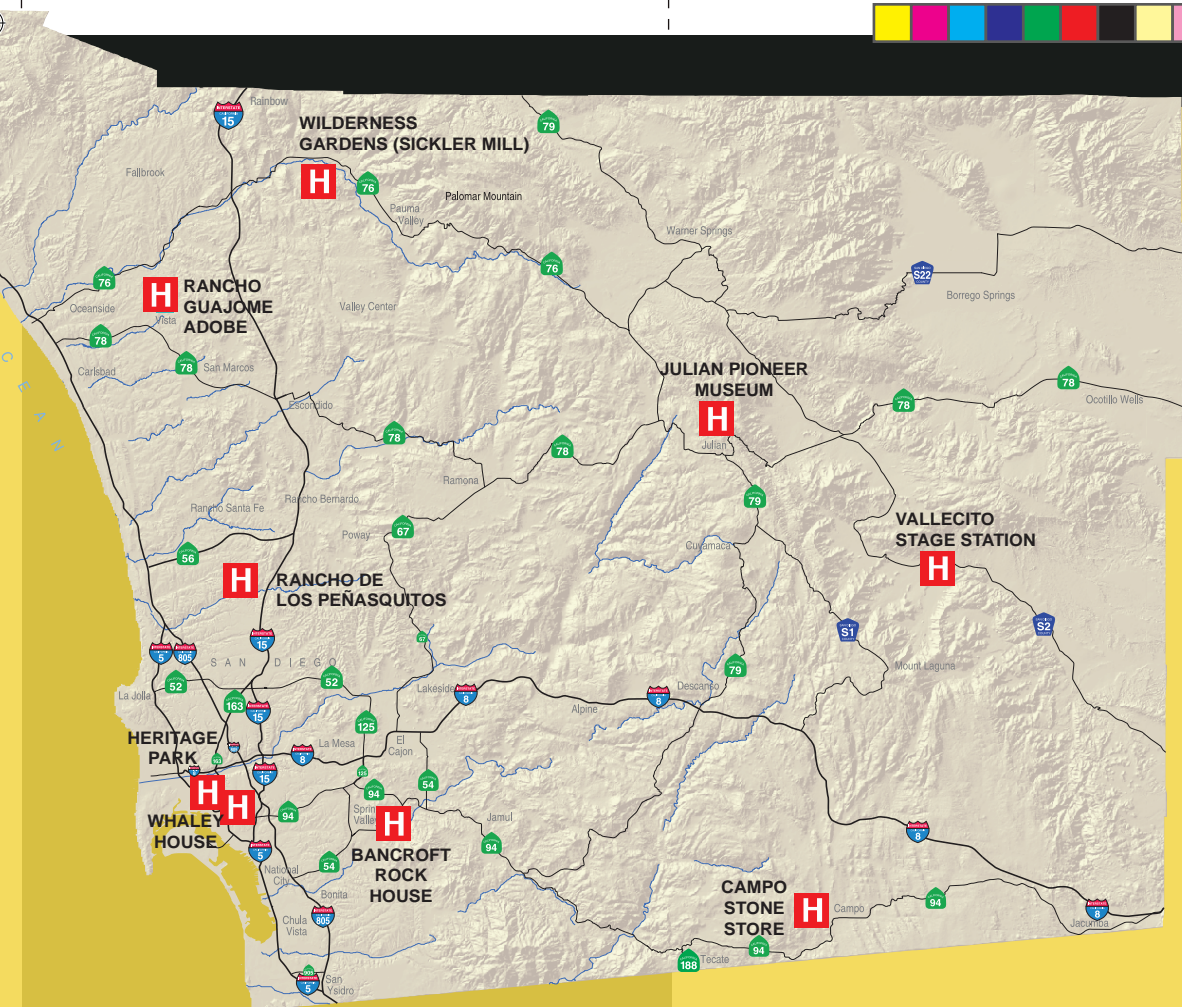
A visitor to Rancho de los Peñasquitos will discover more than 8,000 years of San Diego history. Its bountiful natural resources made it ideal not only for the millennia of Native American habitation, but for the 19th-century settlers. A portion of the ranch house adobe was built in 1823, making it one of the oldest existing structures in San Diego. Much of the rest was built in the 1860s. The rancho is situated in a canyon that features miles of trails through riparian and grassland habitats.

Docent-led tours of the historic Adobe will provide vivid illustrations of what life was like for its Spanish, Mexican, and early American inhabitants. Special programs offer an opportunity to experience daily life as it was lived in the 1800s. Weddings and receptions can also be hosted at this historic site. Call for more details.

Rancho de los Peñasquitos is a National Register Historic and Archaeological District.



Rancho de los Peñasquitos



CAMPO STONE STORE (*Gaskill Brothers Stone Store*)

31130 State Highway 94 • Campo, CA 92006
619-478-5707

This sturdy stone building was the result of a raid on the original frame store of the Gaskill brothers by border bandits in 1875. The furious gun battle made clear that the pioneers in East County needed more security, and the fortress-like stone store built after the raid still stands to remind us of these adventurous times. The "store" also functioned as a bank, post office, and social center for the community. A small museum is open to the public on weekends.

California State Historic Landmark



Rancho Guajome Adobe

HERITAGE PARK VICTORIAN VILLAGE

2450 Heritage Park Row • San Diego, CA 92110
619-260-6401

A stroll among the seven restored houses and buildings in this historic park is a veritable short course in Victorian architecture of the late 19th-century. You'll see styles ranging from the simple Senlis Cottage to the elaborately ornamented Sherman-Gilbert House. Temple Beth Israel is one of the highlights of this park, and is a popular choice for weddings and ceremonies of all faiths.

Tours are provided upon request. Visitors are welcome to come shop or attend an evening movie on the lawn.



Heritage Park Victorian Village